CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A surface light source device of side light type, comprising:

a guide plate having major surfaces to provide an emission surface and a back surface;

a primary light source to supply illumination light through an incidence surface of a side portion of said guide plate, said guide plate providing first and second edges at which the major surfaces respectively intercept the incidence surface; and

a reflector arranged around said primary light source, at least one distal end portion of said reflector providing a shield forming a bend located and extending just before the first or second edge to block illuminating light from being incident to the first or second edge.

2. The surface light source device of side light type according to claim 1, wherein height of said reflector is greater than a distance between the first and second edges in a position separated far from said incidence surface, and is approximately equal to a distance between the first and second edges in the vicinity of the incidence surface.

3. The surface light source device of side light type according to claim 1, wherein height of said reflector is greater than a distance between the first and second edges in a position separated far from the incidence surface, and is approximately equal to a distance between the first and second edges in the vicinity of the incidence surface.

4. A surface light source device of side light type, comprising:

a guide plate having major surfaces to provide an emission surface and a back surface;

a primary light source to supply illumination light through an incidence surface of a side portion of said guide plate, said guide plate providing first and second edges at which the major surfaces respectively intercept the incidence surface; and

a reflector arranged around said primary light source, at least one distal end portion of said reflector providing a shield forming a J-curve portion located and extending just before the first or second edge to block illuminating light from being incident to the first or second edge.

5. The surface light source device of side light type according to claim 4, wherein height of said reflector is greater than a distance between the first and second edges in a

position separated far from the incidence surface, and is approximately equal to a distance between the first and second edges in the vicinity of the incidence surface.

6. The surface light source device of side light type, comprising:

a guide plate having major surfaces to provide an emission surface and a back surface;

a primary light source to supply illumination light through an incidence surface of a side portion of said guide plate, said guide plate providing first and second edges at which the major surfaces respectively intercept the incidence surface; and

a frame surrounding said primary light source, at least one distal end portion of said frame member providing a shield forming a projected slope inclined so as to reflect and guide illuminating light toward an incidence surface area remote from the first and second edges.

7. The surface light source device of side light type according to claim 9, wherein height of said frame is greater than a distance between the first and second edges in a position separated far from the incidence surface, and is approximately equal to a distance between the first and second edges in the vicinity of the incidence surface.

8. A surface light source apparatus, comprising:

a guide plate, said guide plate having first and second edges at an intersection of a side surface of said guide plate and a first and second surface of said guide plate;

a primary light source to provide light through the side surface of said guide plate; and

a shield, with a projection member in contact with or extending just before the first and/or second edges of the guide plate to prevent bright lines from appearing on an emission surface of the guide plate in a vicinity of the side surface.